

MR. SPEAKER : Free of cost...
(Interruptions).

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Let Parliament decide it, I do not mind. Coal is yours. If you want to supply it free, you may do so...
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Parliament never asked you to supply power worth Rs. 90 crores on credit.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : As for coal, bad association brings bad name. As far as power is concerned, only the Minister concerned can reply to that... (Interruptions).

[English]

Supply of Power to Rourkela Steel Plant

*693. **SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY :** Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Orissa State Electricity Board had substantially reduced the supply of power to Rourkela Steel Plant in February and March, 1985 and diverted the power supply coming from Andhra for other purposes;

(b) if so, whether Government have any information as to why the supply of power was reduced around half of the need;

(c) whether Orissa State Electricity Board has charged Rourkela Plant the cost of power diverted including high tariff paid to Andhra; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (d). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Supplies of power to Rourkela Steel Plant from Orissa State Electricity Board's own generation came down in February and March. However, there was no substantial drop in the total supply of power to Rourkela due to supplies received from Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board.

(b) Supplies of power from Orissa State Electricity Board came down in February and March on account of a sharp drop in the power generation of the Board.

(c) Orissa State Electricity Board does not appear to have diverted any power made available to the Rourkela Steel Plant by Andhra State Electricity Board. However, Rourkela Steel Plant has to pay more for Andhra power since, against OSEB's tariff at the rate of 56 paise per Unit, APSEB's power supply costs the plant 95 paise per Unit.

(d) The Central Electricity Authority is examining the issue of high percentage of wheeling loss being charged by OSEB on power supplied by APSEB for RSP with a view to fix a reasonable figure for wheeling loss on this account.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : May I know from the hon. Minister what is the supply cost of the power received from the Madhya Pradesh grid ? I would also like to know whether the Government is contemplating to have a 120 megawatt captive plant. What is the anticipated cost of that and when it is going to be completed ? When was it mooted ?

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : I do not have the price for Madhya Pradesh and I will give it to the member later on. But I can give the price for the OSEB and Andhra Pradesh power. For Andhra Pradesh the cost is 95 paise and the OSEB power is 56 paise per unit. In regard to the Captive Plant, the first unit will be ready by 1st June 1986.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : What is the anticipated supply cost for that ?

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : May I have notice for it please ?

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : May I know from the hon. Minister whether the High Level Committee set up by the Government to review the working of the public sector enterprises and the subsequent changes in their organisational policy has submitted its report ? May I also know whether they have made any recommendations relating to the infrastructural adequacy including power, so far as the Rourkela Plant is concerned ?

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : I am not sure whether this is entirely related to the question he has asked. If the report is available, I shall certainly inform the House if another question is put on it. What I can tell about this particular matter in regard to

power supply is that the concerned Ministries of the Government of India are constantly in touch with each other.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : My question is about the High Level Committee that you have set up to review the working of the public sector enterprises regarding their organisational policy and I wanted to know whether they have made any recommendations so far as Rourkela Plant is concerned, about its infrastructural adequacy including power.

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : I require notice for this question is concerned only with the supply of power to the Rourkela Steel Plant, whereas this High Level Committee is dealing with a number of subjects and not specifically the Rourkela Plant.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : The High Level Committee which has been set up is for all the public sector units under our Ministry. The Report is yet to come. As far as power is concerned, it is true that shortage of power is one of the major constraints of all public sector units, particularly steel. Earlier, it was the same story for fertilizers also. Therefore, the Government have taken a policy decision to have captive thermal power plants in all these major industries. That will help to solve the problem to some extent.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Sir, the Rourkela Steel Plant often complains of want of power, *i.e.* non-supply of power to the required extent from the Government of Orissa or the OSEB. Since the allocation of power to the extent of 15 per cent of the power generated by super-thermal power station lies with the CEA, *i.e.* the Central Electricity Authority, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Ministry of Steel would like to take up this matter with the CEA to get some power directly from super-thermal plant for smooth running of the Steel Plant. The hon. Minister of Steel while replying to the debate on the Demands has said that they would have dedicated power plants instead of the captive power plants of 120 megawatts. I would like to know whether they will try to instal the dedicated power plants to the required extent in different Steel Plants, including Rourkela.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I have said that that was one of the ideas. After all what happens today is that even from CEA, even from the super-thermal power stations under the Central Governments's control, the power goes into the grid of the State and the distribution is controlled by the State Electricity Boards and that is where their priority is changed sometimes. At the time of setting up of the Plant, they always assure regular and full supply of power, saying : "Please set up, we will certainly supply." But later on when they find that they need power to be diverted to agriculture or other priority sectors, then the first sector to be affected is these Central projects like steel plants, or whatever is it. But what is the solution ? That is why we have been saying that either the Central Government should have assured power supply from the supper-thermal power stations or dedicated plants of 210 or whatever megawatts as economically possible for a complex of the public sector units be set up. That is applicable to every State, particularly in the Eastern Belt.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has said that a decision has been taken to set up captive power plants in major industries in the public sector. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware that industries in the private sector are receiving electricity supply from different Electricity Boards as a result of which we the farmers are not receiving power. Will he direct the private sector industries to set up their own captive power plants so as to meet the shortage of power in the agricultural sector ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : How can I give such direction to the private sector ? I do not know. But certain companies in a particular sector have set up their captive power plants.

[English]

Losses suffered by the National Jute Manufacturers' Corporation

*694. **SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Jute Manufacturers' Corporation and its individual units